

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10, 12, 19-26, 34-39 and 41-67 without prejudice. Please add new Claims 68-70. Please amend the claims according to the following listing. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~68~~, further comprising ~~a step of validating the user information from each of the plurality of the users~~ the actions of:
 - a. comparing at least one item of the user information to at least one database to ensure that the item of the user information is valid prior to the action of transmitting the set of the user information; and
 - b. if the item of the user information is not found in the at least one database then taking a predetermined action.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the item of user information comprises an item selected from a group consisting of: a user's postal code, a user's telephone number, a user age, a user's e-mail addresss and combindations thereof.
~~validating step includes the steps of:~~
~~checking a user address against a postal service database; and~~
~~checking a user telephone against a telephone service provider database.~~
- 4-6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the action of ~~steps of:~~

~~receiving at least one selection from a user who has opted in for at least one selection from the opt-in window was displayed; and~~
sending a confirmation e-mail to the user who has opted in at least one selection.

8. (Cancelled)
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 68 ~~+~~, further comprising the ~~steps~~ actions of :
using a portion of the user information to retrieve additional user data from a record; and
assembling the additional user data into the user information.
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 68 ~~+~~, further comprising the ~~steps~~ actions of:
determining that part of the user information is missing; and
using statistical census data to complete the user information. ~~using a portion of the user information to retrieve census data from a database; and~~
~~assembling the census data into the user information.~~
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~42~~ 70, wherein the at least one objective factor is a past performance indicator of a server hosting the web page.
14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~42~~ 70, wherein the at least one objective factor is an opt-in rate for similar promotions.
15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~42~~ 70, wherein the at least one objective

factor is a confirmation e-mail open rate.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42 70, predetermined maximum bounty is a maximum bounty set by the advertiser.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42 70, further comprising ~~a step of validating the user information~~; the actions of:

- a. comparing at least one item of the user information to at least one database to ensure that the item of the user information is valid prior to the action of transmitting the set of the user information; and
- b. if the item of the user information is not found in the at least one database then taking a predetermined action.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the item of user information comprises an item selected from a group consisting of: a user's postal code, a user's telephone number, a user age, a user's e-mail addresss and combindations thereof. ~~validating step includes the steps of:~~

- ~~checking a user address against a postal service database; and~~
- ~~checking a user telephone number against a telephone service provider database.~~

19-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for billing an advertiser for on-line promotions, comprising the steps of:

- displaying a web page to a plurality of users, the web page having a plurality of fields for collecting user information;
- receiving the user information from each of the plurality of users;

comparing the user information from each of the plurality of users to a set of criteria defined by an advertiser; and

for each of the plurality of users whose user information matches the set of criteria defined by the advertiser; ;

displaying an on-line promotion from the advertiser,

providing the user information to the advertiser, and

billing the advertiser an amount ~~based on at least one objective factor indicative of a success level of the on-line promotion~~ that is determined by subtracting from a predetermined maximum bounty a product of the predetermined maximum bounty times at least one objective factor that that indicates a quality of the user information.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the at least one objective factor is a past performance indicator of a server hosting the web page.

29. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the at least one objective factor is an opt-in rate for similar promotions.

30. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the at least one objective factor is a confirmation e-mail open rate.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, wherein the predetermined maximum bounty ~~at least one objective factor~~ is a maximum bounty set by the advertiser.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, further comprising ~~a step of validating the user information~~ the actions of:

- a. comparing at least one item of the user information from at least one user to at least one database to ensure that the item of the user information is valid prior to the action of transmitting the set of the user information; and
- b. if the item of the user information is not found in the at least one database then taking a predetermined action.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 32, wherein the item of user information comprises an item selected from a group consisting of: a user's postal code, a user's telephone number, a user age, a user's e-mail addresss and combindations thereof ~~validating step includes the steps of:~~

~~checking a user address against a postal service database; and
checking a user telephone number against a telephone service provider database.~~

34-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 27, further comprising the ~~steps~~ actions of:
determining that part of the user information is missing; and
using statistical census data to complete the user information. ~~using a portion of the user information to retrieve census data from a database; and
assembling the census data into the user information.~~

41-67. (Cancelled).

68. (New) A method, operable on a digital computer, of targeting advertising to a plurality of users of a global computer network Web page, comprising the actions of:

- a. receiving target information from a plurality of advertisers, the target information received from each advertiser setting forth a set of criteria that is to be used to

select to which of the plurality of users each advertiser targets for on-line promotions;

- b. presenting a registration window to a user of the plurality of users, the registration window including input fields that allow the user to input user information;
- c. upon the user completing entry of the user information into the input fields of the registration window, comparing the user information associated with the user to the set of criteria associated with each advertiser;
- d. presenting to the user an advertiser window that lists only each advertiser whose criteria are matched by the user information entered by the user;
- e. receiving input from the user indicating which selected advertisers listed in the advertiser window the user desires information; and
- f. upon receiving the input from the user, transmitting to each of the selected advertisers a set of the user information associated with the user.

69. (New) A method, operable on a digital computer, of enabling a promoter to provide to an advertiser an advertising opportunity targeting a plurality of users of a global computer network Web page, comprising the actions of:

- a. receiving from a Web server a subset of a set of user information received from a user who has responded to a registration of a Web page administered by the Web server, the subset of the set of information limited to information that is necessary to determine whether the user meets criteria set forth to the promoter an advertiser of the plurality of advertisers;
- b. comparing the subset of information to the criteria set forth by the advertiser to determine the criteria of the advertiser are met by the user;
- c. if the criteria are met by the user, then receiving from the Web server any information in the set of information not included in the subset of the set of information;

- d. if the criteria are met by the user, then transmitting to the user an opt-in window that includes a data entry mechanism that allows the user to select the advertiser, thereby indicating that the user desires information about the advertiser; and
- e. if the user selects the advertiser via the opt-in window, then transmitting to the advertiser the set of user information.

70. (New) The method of claim 69, further comprising the action of billing the advertiser an amount that is determined by subtracting from a predetermined maximum bounty a product of the predetermined maximum bounty times at least one objective factor that that indicates a quality of the user information.